

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR: Irwin C. Lewis et al.)

PRIOR

EXAMINER: W. BOSS

SERIAL NO.: Continuation)
Application of U.S.)
Serial No. 09/432,328)

PRIOR

ART UNIT: 1775

FILING DATE:)

DATE: February 11, 2002

FOR: Carbon Fiber Binder)
Pitch)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicants respectfully submit the following preliminary amendment for entry in the above-identified Continuation Application of pending U.S. application serial no. 09/432,328 (now allowed).

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-21, 23-25.

REMARKS

The foregoing preliminary amendment (which is being mailed simultaneously with a request for filing a continuation application of pending application serial no. 09/432,328, now allowed) is submitted as noted above in this continuation application. The claims pending in this continuation application are now original claims 22 and 26-

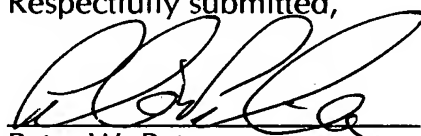
30. Applicants have canceled claims 1-21, 23-25, which are no longer applicable to this continuation application.

Applicants believe the present invention as presently claimed is novel and unobvious over the prior art references heretofore brought to light and discussed in the parent application.

Applicants believe the present invention as claimed in claim 27, including the claim language of, "having a longitudinal coefficient of thermal expansion of about $-0.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to about $0.10 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ measured from about 25 to about 200°C ", provides distinct and unobvious subject matter over the prior art references heretofore brought to light. Further, Applicants believe that claims 22, 26 and 28-30 are also distinct and unobvious over the above-identified prior art references, particularly in the claim language including "substantially single mono-filaments."

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATION OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL671779245US Date of Deposit: February 11, 2002 I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

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Uca110005000PREAMD

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